

Attorney Docket No. KNI-124-A-1IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Matsumoto et al.

Serial Number: 09/613,362

U.S. Filing Date: July 10, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1732

Examiner: Poe, Michael I.

Title: Method of Slip Casting Powdery Material, Mold For Use
In Slip Casting Method, And Method Of Manufacturing
Open Porous Body For Use In MoldRECEIVED
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OCT 28 2004

DECLARATIONI, Kazuhiro Kitagawa do hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I am General Manager of TOTO LTD., which is the owner/assignee of the above-identified patent application, and I am authorized to sign this declaration on behalf of TOTO LTD.

2. TOTO LTD. is also the owner/assignee of US Patent Nos. 4,464,485, 4,797,425, 4,828,771 and 5,242,635.

3. The inventions of the present application and US Patents 4,464,485, 4,797,425, 4,828,771 and 5,242,635 were commonly owned by TOTO LTD. at the time the invention of the present application was made.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein on my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Kazuhiro Kitagawa
(name)

General Manager
Title

Kazuhiro Kitagawa
(signature)

October 19, 2004
Date